

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for integrating a fleet management system onto legacy
2 systems, said method comprising:
3 providing a fleet management system on a first platform;
4 providing a legacy system on a second platform;
5 providing a database; and
6 integrating said fleet management system comprising raster data and
7 vector data to said legacy system using said database and a host gateway, said raster data
8 and said vector data being used to display a digital map.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said host gateway comprises an
2 MIS gateway.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of integrating provides a
2 TCP/IP interface between said fleet management system and said legacy system.

1 4. A system for fleet management, said system comprising:
2 a legacy system, said legacy system being selected from a yard
3 management system, a dock management system, a warehouse management system;
4 a fleet management system comprising raster data and vector data to
5 display a digital map;
6 a database; and
7 a gateway coupling said legacy system to said database and said fleet
8 management system.

1 5. The system of claim 4 wherein said gateway comprises said
2 database.

1 6. The system of claim 4 wherein said gateway coupling said legacy
2 system and said fleet management system comprises a TCP/IP interface.

1 7. A method for tracking at least one of a plurality of products,
2 comprising:

receiving arrival information about at least one of a plurality of vehicles transporting said at least one of a plurality of products at a distribution point;

receiving unloading information about said at least one of a plurality of products from said at least one of a plurality of vehicles transporting said at least one of a plurality of products, said unloading information being generated at said distribution point;

receiving storage information about said at least one of a plurality of products, said storage information resulting from storing said at least one of a plurality of products at said distribution point;

incorporating said arrival information, unloading information and storage information into a database to provide routing information for said at least one of a plurality of vehicles transporting said at least one of a plurality of products.

8. The method of claim 7 further comprising receiving loading information about said at least one of a plurality products being loaded onto said at least one of a plurality of vehicles transporting said at least one of a plurality of products at said distribution point.

9. The method of claim 7 further comprising receiving departure information about said at least one of a plurality of vehicles transporting said at least one of a plurality of products from said distribution point.

10. The method of claim 7 wherein said arrival information about said at least one of a plurality of vehicles transporting said at least one of a plurality of products is received from a yard management system.

11. The method of claim 7 wherein said unloading information about said at least one of a plurality of products is received from a dock management system.

12. The method of claim 7 wherein said storage information about said at least one of a plurality of products is received from a warehouse management system.

13. The method of claim 7 wherein said routing information about said at least one of a plurality of vehicles transporting said at least one of a plurality of products comprises a fleet management system.

1 14. The method of claim 7 wherein said arrival information, loading
2 information and storage information are received by a host gateway.

1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein said host gateway receives said
2 arrival information, loading information and storage information through a TCP/IP
3 socket.

1 16. A method for integrating a fleet management system onto business
2 systems, said method comprising:

3 providing a fleet management system on a first platform, said fleet
4 management system comprising raster data and vector data, said raster data and said
5 vector data being used to display a digital map;

6 providing a business management system on a second platform;

7 providing at least one of a plurality of interfaces, said interface capable of
8 adapting said fleet management system on said first platform to said business
9 management system on said second platform;

10 providing a database;

11 providing a host gateway for routing messages from said fleet management
12 system to said business management system through said at least one of a plurality of
13 interfaces; and

14 integrating said fleet management system to said business management
15 system using said host gateway and said database and said at least one of said plurality of
16 interfaces.

1 17. The method of claim 16 wherein said host gateway comprises a
2 plurality of tools.

1 18. The method of claim 16 wherein said step of integrating provides a
2 TCP/IP interface between said fleet management system and said business management
3 system.

1 19. A method for tracking a plurality of product location information,
2 comprising:

3 providing an interface to at least one legacy business management system,
 4 said legacy business management system being selected from a yard management system,
 5 a dock management system, a warehouse management system;
 6 providing a fleet management system;
 7 providing a database;
 8 coupling said legacy business management system to said fleet
 9 management system and said database through said interfaces, wherein said at least one
 10 interface is operable to translate information to said legacy business management system
 11 from said fleet management system and to translate information to said fleet management
 12 system from said legacy business management system.

1 20. The method of claim 19 wherein said fleet management system is
 2 coupled to said legacy business management system using a plurality of messages.

1 21. The method of claim 19 wherein said messages are transmitted
 2 using the TCP/IP protocol.

1 22. A method for tracking at least one of a plurality of products,
 2 comprising:
 3 receiving arrival information about at least one of a plurality of vehicles
 4 transporting said at least one of a plurality of products at a distribution point, wherein said
 5 arrival information about said at least one of a plurality of vehicles transporting said at
 6 least one of a plurality of products is received from a yard management system;
 7 receiving unloading information about said at least one of a plurality of
 8 products from said at least one of a plurality of vehicles transporting said at least one of a
 9 plurality of products, said unloading information being generated at said distribution
 10 point, wherein said unloading information about said at least one of a plurality of
 11 products is received from a dock management system;
 12 receiving storage information about said at least one of a plurality of
 13 products, said storage information resulting from storing said at least one of a plurality of
 14 products at said distribution point, wherein said storage information about said at least
 15 one of a plurality of products is received from a warehouse management system;
 16 receiving loading information about said at least one of a plurality
 17 products being loaded onto said at least one of a plurality of vehicles transporting said at
 18 least one of a plurality of products at said distribution point, wherein said loading

19 information about said at least one of a plurality of products is received from a dock
20 management system;
21 receiving departure information about said at least one of a plurality of
22 vehicles transporting said at least one of a plurality of products from said distribution
23 point, wherein said departure information about said at least one of a plurality of vehicles
24 transporting said at least one of a plurality of products is received from a yard
25 management system; and
26 incorporating said arrival information, loading information, storage
27 information, unloading information and departure information into a database to provide
28 routing information for said at least one of a plurality of vehicles transporting said at least
29 one of a plurality of products wherein said routing information about said at least one of a
30 plurality of vehicles transporting said at least one of a plurality of products comprises a
31 fleet management system, wherein said arrival information, loading information and
32 storage information are received by a host gateway through a TCP/IP socket.